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Application No. 10/825,930 - - - - 2

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-13 (canceled).

Claim 14 (currently amended): A delivery vehicle for silver nitrate ~~a silver ion releasing compound~~ for use in the treatment of menorrhagia and comprising a plurality of separate, physiologically inert beads bearing a tissue necrosing amount of ~~a water-soluble silver nitrate ion-releasing compound~~ coated on the surface of each bead, the beads having an average diameter in the range of about 1 to about 6 millimeters ~~wherein the water-soluble inorganic silver salt is silver perchlorate.~~

Claims 15-18 (canceled).

Claim 19 (currently amended): A delivery vehicle for silver nitrate ~~a silver ion releasing compound~~ for use in the treatment of menorrhagia and comprising a plurality of separate, physiologically inert beads bearing a tissue necrosing amount of a silver nitrate coating on the surface of each bead, the beads having an average diameter in the range of about 1 to about 6 millimeters and the silver nitrate being present as a composition that comprises at least about 75 percent by weight silver nitrate.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The delivery vehicle of claim 19 wherein the silver nitrate is present as a composition that comprises at least about 95 percent by weight silver nitrate.

Claim 21 (original). The delivery vehicle of claim 20 wherein the silver nitrate is present as a composition that comprises up to about 5 percent by weight potassium nitrate.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A delivery vehicle for a silver ion releasing compound for use in the treatment of menorrhagia and comprising a plurality of separate, physiologically inert beads bearing about 20 to about 150 milligrams of silver nitrate per bead

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coated on the surface of each bead, the beads having an average diameter in the range of about 1 to about 6 millimeters.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The delivery vehicle of claim 22 wherein the beads bear about 50 to about 150 milligrams of silver nitrate per bead.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The delivery vehicle of claim 19 wherein the silver nitrate composition is present in a physiologically tolerable binding matrix.

Claim 25 (original). The delivery vehicle of claim 24 wherein binding matrix is selected from the group consisting of a synthetic polymeric binder, a gelatin binder, a polysaccharide binder, and a combination thereof.

Claim 26 (original). The delivery vehicle of claim 25 wherein the binding matrix is a polysaccharide.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A delivery vehicle for ~~silver nitrate~~ silver ion releasing compound for use in the treatment of menorrhagia and comprising a plurality of separate, physiologically inert beads bearing a tissue necrosing amount of silver nitrate composition in a physiologically tolerable polysaccharide binding matrix and wherein the polysaccharide is a dextran.

Claim 28 (original). The delivery vehicle of claim 25 wherein the binding matrix is a synthetic polymer.

Claim 29 (original). The delivery vehicle of claim 28 wherein the synthetic polymer is polyvinylpyrrolidone.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The delivery vehicle of claim 19 wherein the physiologically inert beads are porous.

Claims 31-36 (canceled).

Claim 37 (previously presented): The delivery vehicle of claim 19 wherein the beads are polymeric beads.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The delivery vehicle of claim 19 wherein the beads are polypropylene beads.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The delivery vehicle of claim 19 wherein the beads are polystyrene beads.